STATEMENT OF COMMISSIONER MICHAEL J. COPPS

Re: AMFM Radio Licenses, L.L.C., Licensee Station WIHT(FM), Washington, D.C.

In this case, the Commission adopted a Notice of Apparent Liability against Clear Channel for violating the statutory prohibition against broadcasting indecent material. The Commission subsequently learned that the statutory deadline had passed last fall when the station's license was renewed. This case highlights the need to address complaints filed with the Commission expeditiously.

In addition, I have been calling for the Commission to establish an effective license renewal process under which the Commission would once again actually consider the manner in which a station has served the public interest. One aspect of that consideration should include complaints filed by the public. It is unfortunate that in this instance a license was renewed while a pending complaint remained unaddressed. Going forward, the Commission should not only ensure that all complaints have been addressed before a license is renewed, but we should also conduct a more thorough examination of how stations are meeting their public interest responsibilities over the term of their licenses.